

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA**

IN RE: PACER FEE EXEPMTIONS

JAKOB BROUNSTEIN

(PACER Account xxxx964),
Movant.

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Misc. No. 09-239

ORDER

This matter is before the court upon the application by Jakob Brounstein (“Brounstein”) for exemption from the fees imposed by the Electronic Public Access fee schedule adopted by the Judicial Conference of the United States Courts (ECF No. 99).

This court finds that Brounstein is an individual researcher associated with an educational institution and, therefore, falls within the class of users listed in the fee schedule as being eligible for a fee exemption. Additionally, Brounstein has demonstrated that an exemption is necessary in order to avoid unreasonable burdens and to promote public access to information.

Accordingly, Brounstein shall be exempt from the payment of fees for access via the Public Access to Court Electronic Records system (the “PACER System”) to the electronic case files maintained by this Court, to the extent such use is incurred in the course of the defined scholarly research project described in the Application for Exemption from the Judicial Conference’s Electronic Public Access Fees in the United States District Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania (the “Application”) (ECF No. 99). The Court finds that the research project described in the Application is intended

solely for scholarly research and is limited in scope in that the amount of exempt access requested is narrowly tailored to meet the project's needs. Brounstein shall not be exempt from the payment of fees incurred in connection with other uses of the PACER System in this Court. Additionally, the following limitations apply:

- 1) This fee exemption applies only to Brounstein and is valid only for the scholarly research project described in the Application;
- 2) This fee exemption applies only to the electronic case files of this court that are available through the PACER System;
- 3) By accepting this exemption, Brounstein agrees not to sell for profit any data obtained as a result of receiving this exemption;
- 4) Brounstein is prohibited from transferring any data obtained as a result of receiving this exemption, including redistribution via Internet based databases. This prohibition does not prevent Brounstein from relying upon the data obtained as a result of receiving this exemption in or in connection with the scholarly research project described in the Application;
- 5) This exemption is valid until December 31, 2026.
- 6) This exemption applies to all PACER fees incurred by Brounstein for accessing this Court's electronic case files in connection with the scholarly research project described in the Application since March 8, 2023. Should Brounstein's PACER fees incurred since March 8, 2023, exceed \$500.00, the PACER Service Center is directed to advise this Court of Brounstein's account balance prior to crediting the PACER Account. Said notice may

be filed on this docket, or mailed to the Clerk of Court, who will file the notice on the docket.

This exemption may be revoked at the discretion of the Court at any time. The Clerk of Court of the United States District Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania, or her designee, may periodically review the usage of Brounstein's exempt PACER System account during the term of this exemption.

Dated: March 28, 2023

BY THE COURT:

/s/ Mark R. Hornak

Mark R. Hornak

Chief United States District Judge

cc: PACER Service Center *(via email)*
Administrative Office of the United States Courts,
Multi-Court Exemptions Office *(via email)*
Jakob Brounstein *(via email)*